WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An aqueous formulation comprising:
    a. a block copolymer;
    b. a polyethylene glycol (PEG); and
    c. 2,6-diisopropylphenol.

2. A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the amount of 2,6-diisopropylphenol is:
    a. at least 1% (w/v) of said formulation;
    b. from 1 to 5% (w/v) of said formulation;
    c. from 1 to 2% (w/v) of said formulation; or
    d. 1% (w/v) of said formulation.

3. A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the block copolymer is:
    a. less than about 10% (w/v) of said formulation;
    b. from 5 to 10% (w/v) of said formulation;
    c. 6 to 8% (w/v) of said formulation;
    d. a poloxamer;
    e. selected from the group consisting of P188, P407 and P237; or
    f. P188.

4. A formulation according to claim 1, wherein the total amount of PEG is:
    a. less than about 5% (w/v) of said formulation;
    b. between 3 and 4% (w/v) of said formulation;
    c. selected from the group consisting of PEG-200, PEG-300, PEG-400, PEG-600 and PEG-800;
    d. PEG-400.

5. A formulation according to claim 1, which formulation further comprises:
    a. a tonicity modifier;

b. a tonicity modifier selected from the group consisting of; lactose, dextrose, dextrose anhydrous, mannitol, sodium chloride, potassium chloride, propylene glycol and glycerol;

c. propylene glycol;

d. propylene glycol in an amount not more than 5% (w/v) of said formulation; or

e. propylene glycol in an amount not more than 2% (w/v) of said formulation.

6. A formulation according to claim 1, which further comprises:

a. citric acid;

b. citric acid at a concentration between 2.5 and 10 mM;

c. an antimicrobial agent;

d. an antimicrobial agent selected from the group consisting of disodium edetate, metabisulfate, benzyl alcohol, cysteine or a salt thereof, and EDTA;

e. benzyl alcohol; or

f. benzyl alcohol present in an amount up to 0.5% (w/v) of said formulation.

7. An aqueous formulation comprising:

a. poloxamer 188 in an amount between 6 and 8% (w/v) of said formulation; a polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount between 2 and 4% (w/v) of said formulation; propylene glycol in an amount not greater than 2% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount between 1 and 2% (w/v) of said formulation;

b. poloxamer 237 in an amount of about 3% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 6% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation;

c. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 8% (w/v) of said formulation polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 4% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation;

d. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 8% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 3% (w/v) of said formulation; propylene glycol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation;

e. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 8% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 4% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation, wherein said formulation is substantially free of propylene glycol;

f. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 8% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 3% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation, wherein said formulation is substantially free of propylene glycol;

g. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 7% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 4% (w/v) of said formulation; propylene glycol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation;

h. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 7% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 4% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation, wherein said formulation is substantially free of propylene glycol;

i. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 7% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 3% (w/v) of said formulation; propylene glycol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation;

j. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 7% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 3% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation, wherein said formulation is substantially free of propyelene glycol;

k. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 6% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 4% (w/v) of said formulation; propylene glycol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation;

l. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 6% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 4% (w/v) of said formulation; propylene glycol in an amount of about 2% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation;

m. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 6% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 6% (w/v) of said formulation; propylene glycol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation;

n. poloxamer 188 in an amount of about 6% (w/v) of said formulation; polyethylene glycol (PEG)-400 in an amount of about 6% (w/v) of said formulation; and 2,6-diisopropylphenol in an amount of about 1% (w/v) of said formulation, wherein said formulation is substantially free of propylene glycol.

8. A formulation according to claim 7, which further comprises:

a. citric acid at a concentration between 2.5 and 10 mM;

b. citric acid in an amount of about 20 mg per 10 milliliters of said formulation;

c. benzyl alcohol in an amount of about 0.45% (w/v) of said formulation.

9. A method selected from the group consisting of:

a. administering propofol to a patient, which method comprises administering to said patient an aqueous formulation according to claim 1;

b. treating a patient, which method comprises administering to said patient an aqueous formulation according to claim 1;

c. inducing anesthesia in a patient, which method comprises administering to said patient an amount of a formulation according to claim 1 such that the patient receives an amount of propofol effective to induce anesthesia; and

d. maintaining anesthesia in a patient, which method comprises administering to said patient an amount of a formulation according to claim 1 such that the patient receives an amount of propofol effective to maintain anesthesia.